## "For Love of Country®: In My Own Words"

Rising 7th, 8th and 9th graders:
Win up to \$100 this summer;
make your future easier and
more fun!

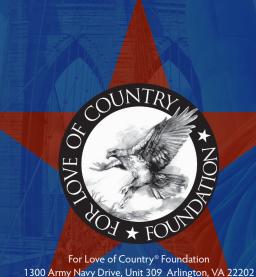
Just write an essay or poem answering the question:

# What Does Democracy Mean to You?

Fill out the cover sheet on the back of this brochure or visit bit.ly/FCPL\_FLOC



Entries are due by Sept. 2, 2023





Fairfax County Public Library 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 324 Fairfax, Virginia 22035 703-324-3100 www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library



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# For Love of Country®: In My Own Words

The Fairfax County Public Library and For Love of Country®

Foundation present

# The 14th Annual Essay and Poetry Contest

# What Does Democracy Mean to You?

For rising 7th, 8th and 9th graders
June 16 – Sept. 2, 2023

## Rules and Guidelines:

- 1) All students entering 7th, 8th and 9th grade as of August 2023 are eligible for the contest.
- 2) All work submitted must be original work.
- 3) One entry per student is permitted (one essay or one poem).
- 4) Essay work will be judged on:
  - Originality and creativity;
  - · Persuasiveness;
  - · Clarity, coherence and organization;
  - Grammar and spelling.

## Poetry will be judged on:

- Originality and creativity;
- Relevance to contest topic;
- Clarity and coherence;
- Spelling.
- 5) Submit one copy of your work to your nearest Fairfax County Public Library branch or online at *libraryevents@* fairfaxcounty.gov by Sept. 2, 2023 at 6 p.m.
- Essay/poem must be accompanied with a completed cover sheet.
- 7) The winners will be notified by Oct. 6; prizes will be awarded in October, date TBD.
- 8) Essays/poems will not be returned.

Multiple awards of \$100, \$50, and \$25, as well as Certificates of Merit, will be awarded in both the essay and poetry categories.

\$100 & Gold Certificate \$50 & Silver Certificate \$25 & Bronze Certificate Certificate of Merit

## Cover sheet

Please print clearly

Name:
Street Address:
City/State/Zip:
Email Address:
Phone Number:
Grade (Fall of 2023):
School Name:
My neighborhood library branch is:

## Student

I have followed the rules and guidelines as outlined; my work is original work. If my writing is selected, I agree that the Fairfax County Public Library, For Love of Country Foundation© and/or media outlets may use my work.

Student Signature

#### Parent/Guardian

I have read the rules and guidelines and allow my child to submit an original essay/poem to the Fairfax County Public Library. I understand that this work may be posted online and/or used in other media outlets (using only first name and last initial to identify).

Parent/Guardian Signature